New England Deaconess Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

pulse

VOLUME 22 — NUMBER 4 JANUARY 1969

New Business Manager For CRI

Robert D. Pence, recently named Business Manager of the Cancer Research Institute, came to Deaconess after ten years with the Sloan Kettering Institute for Cancer Research in New York City, where he was manager of Lab and Office Services.

A 1950 graduate of Miami University in Ohio, Mr. Pence was a Fulbright scholar at the University of Montpellier in France. He served as a Lieutenant, j.g., in the intelligence division of the admiral's staff Pacific Fleet, U. S. Navy, during the Korean War.

After working for Texas Petroleum Company for two years in Africa he started at Sloan Kettering in Rye, New York as an administrative assistant.

Mr. Pence, now a resident of Boston's Marlborough Street, enjoys classical music and travel.

Dr. DeFriez: Visiting Physician In Afghanistan

(Photos by Dr. DeFriez)

Afghanistan is an agrarian country with an export figure that runs as high as 90% on agricultural products. Known for its hand-woven carpets, which are essentially the only manufactured goods exported, Afghanistan has filled the annals of history with its many foreign invasions beginning with Alexander the Great and ending with the defeat of the British by the Afghans in 1919, at the Khyber Pass. A land of dryness and temperature extremes, it is a country with a turbulent past entering upon a promising future.

"It is like three centuries rolled into one," said Dr. Albert DeFriez, Active Staff, Internal Medicine, describing his month's stay in Afghanistan. There, on occasion, man still serves as a beast of burden, and shaggy camels trod slowly beside motorized means of transportation; it is a culture of anachronisms — the past merges with the present, the primitive with the modern.

Located in the capital of Kabul, where the Hindu Kush mountains tower some 18,000 feet above the city, Dr. DeFriez spent four weeks in the city's Avicenna Hospital as a volunteer visiting physician for the Care-Medico program.

A general surgical-medical hospital with a 70-bed-capacity, the Avicenna is staffed by Care-Medico personnel. There are at present, three American doctors and four American nurses: one serving as anesthesiologist, one as the operating room nurse, and two others as ward nurses. In addition there is a full-time American director of the medical laboratory. All permanent personnel serve for two years. The staff is reinforced monthly, as regularly as possible, with volunteer medical personnel from the United States.

Accompanied by his wife, Dr. DeFriez flew to Afghanistan to take part in the Care-Medico program as a staff doctor and lecturer for young Afghan doctors serving their residencies at the Avicenna Hospital. An orthopedic surgeon joined Dr. DeFriez in the six week volunteer duty at the hospital.

An average day began with hospital rounds at 8:30 in the morning, after everyone had assembled. Lectures were scheduled for the afternoons, and patient care filled out the rest of the eight hour work day. Three days a week, Dr. DeFriez attended patients at the out-patient clinic, located half a mile from the actual hospital site. The clinic is called the "Red Crest Clinic," instead of the usual "Red Cross," in deference to Afghanistan's Islam culture and traditions.

Dr. and Mrs. DeFriez had "very nice, comfortable living quarters," provided by the United States Aid to Industrial Development. Language was no major barrier in communication for Dr. DeFriez since "the medical residents all spoke English, and whenever necessary served as interpreters." Mrs. DeFriez picked up Farsi — a local dialect similar to

(Continued on Page 4)

OR Technician Graduation

Graduates of this year's Operating Room Technicians class were the first to affiliate at Beth Israel Hospital for emergency room and delivery room experience. Since Deaconess instigated the training program as a six month course in 1958 specifically to train OR assistants for employment within the Hospital, the course has evolved to 12 months of classroom instruction and clinical experience, preparing graduates to assist in the Operating room of any hospital under the direct supervision of a graduate registered nurse.

Curriculum was developed by Miss Margaret A. Burns, OR Technician Program Instructor and Co-ordinator, to include a basic study of anatomy, microbiology, ethics, legal aspects and aseptic techniques. As the student masters information, he is allowed to scrub as a member of the surgical team in progressively more complicated operations. Students are also required to write and present to the class a case study of a patient's pre- and post- operative history. The program followed is the prescribed course of the Association of Operating Room Nurses, designed to prepare students for the national certification examinations, which will be given in 1969 for the first time. This year, Miss Genevieve Danberg, assistant to Miss Burns, aided in instructing the eight students.

Graduation was held on Friday, December 27. Mr. Fabio Alvarino, Miss Elaine Canto, Miss Pamela Catulle and Miss Christie Williamson plan to join the OR Staff at Deaconess.

OR Technicians class of 1968 includes (seated left to right) Miss Elizabeth Blair, Miss Elaine Canto, Miss Christie Williamson and Miss Pamela Cutulle. Standing are Mr. Fabio Alvarino, Miss Judith Mitchell, Miss Genevieve Danberg, Instructor, Miss Anita Roderick and Miss Janice Webber. Due to illness Miss Roderick and Miss Webber will complete the program in early Spring.

I Want to Know . . .

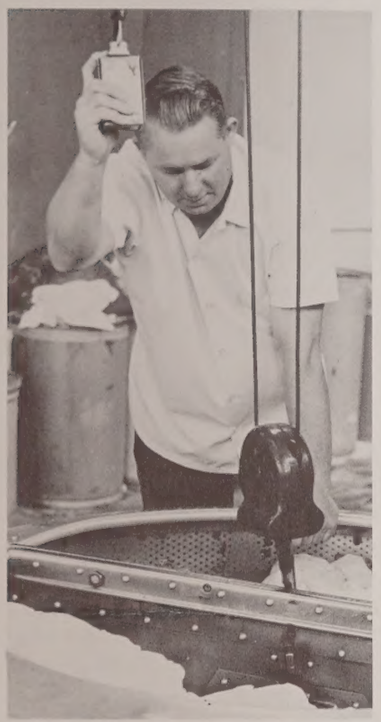
The question of why prices in the Hospital cafeteria have been on the rise drew the following response from Deaconess officials:

We sincerely regret that the New England Deaconess Hospital cafeteria has been forced to raise its prices, but the cost of living has been on a steady incline. Prices on merchandise of all varieties have been increasing . . . including food produce. We feel the new prices in the cafeteria are now at a level commensurate with the overall general increases on the state and national level.

Profile - JIMMY HALLIGAN

Just about everyone knows Jimmy Halligan. He's been at Deaconess since he was fifteen and is due for his twenty year pin in April. Working in the Laundry, as washing supervisor, his responsibilities would make a housewife's eyes pop.

He handles about 8,500 pounds of wash a day, more dirty clothes than most of us have to launder in two years time. Running about 20 loads in four washing machines with capacities ranging from 50 to 900 pounds, Jimmy daily uses an average of 42 pounds of soap and 85 ounces of bleach.



Jimmy Halligan hooks two baskets of wet wash on a pulley to lift it to an extractor, which will remove excess water by centrifugal force.

The washing process in any institutional laundry, but especially in a hospital, is quite complicated. To constantly protect patients and employees, formulas are developed to best treat heavily soiled, lightly soiled and infectious laundry. Jimmy considers water level, temperature control and timing of the various suds, bleach and rinse cycles for each type of wash load. He incorporates chemicals to combat bacteria into the formula, and runs tests evaluating results.

From the washing process clothes are placed in one of two extractors to remove excess water by spinning. A 200 pound tumble dryer fluffs towels and johnnies dry. Sheets and pillow cases are ironed and uniforms are drip-dryed.

When Deaconess bought its new uniforms, Jim developed his own washing formulas for synthetic materials. His methods are followed closely by several other commercial laundries using similar garments. Until this year Jimmy was also responsible for the preventive maintenance and minor repairs of the Laundry's over a quarter million dollars worth of equipment.

Jimmy bowled for 17 years on the Hospital's team and is a substitute this year. On a winning bowling team in 1955, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 67, he has also played on the Hospital softball team since its inception.

"Nanny Goat" makes the number one spot on the Charts . . .

ALVIN HYLTON GETS A HIT RECORDING

Holding the recording of the song that put "Larry and Alvin" on the number one spot of the top ten record listings in Jamaica, Alvin Hylton, Deaconess Hospital Maintenance Dept. employee, looks understandably proud. He and his friend Larry wrote the "Nanny Goat" song in July, shortly before Alvin came to America.

Released in Jamaica shortly thereafter, the song made the charts almost immediately, climbing from the number nine spot up to number one, where it stayed for a full three weeks. The lack of an international market on Jamaican recording productions eliminates any possibilities of releasing the song in the States on its original label, but Alvin is writing more songs which will perhaps eventually be produced and released here.

In Boston for approximately two months now, Alvin's main aspiration is to be a good song writer. To further his aim, Alvin hopes to enroll in a school for the study of music, then produce more hits like "Nanny Goat" and perhaps settle down here.

Christmas '68 The Season

Miss Ellen D. Howland, Director of Nursing, held her Christmas Tea in Harris Hall on December 16. Sampling punch from the "champagne" fountain are Miss Shirley Overstreet (left to right), Miss Howland, Miss Marjorie Pond and Miss Kathleen Noyes.

Mr. W. Clifford Fisher plays Santa Claus, distributing candy to employees. Recovery Room staff nurses, Miss Maria Duggan (left to right), Miss Sharon St. Ledger and Miss Carlene Leavitt step to the front.

Mr. Lloyd Bilton refills the punc at the Hospital Christmas Party, December 20th in the Cafeteria. ment Heads served at the event.

Before the Hospital's Christmas Party, held Friday, December 20th in the Cafeteria, Mrs. Sarah Kelley (left to right), Miss Charlotte Donaldson, Mr. Dean Holdeman, Mrs. Antoinette Valentine and Miss Sharon O'Toole prepare trays of cookies and cakes.

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Christmas '68 The Season That Was..

Miss Ellen D. Howland, Director of Nursing, held her Christmas Tea in Harris Hall on December 16. Sampling punch from the "champagne" fountain are Miss Shirley Overstreet (left to right), Miss Howland, Miss Marjorie Pond and Miss Kathleen Noyes.

At the Christmas Coffee sponsored by the Recovery Room and Surgical Services Miss Isabella Tighe, Mrs. Pauline Lazzara, Miss Margaret Burns and Mrs. Joanna Kahn enjoy festivities. Mrs. Lazzara and Mrs. Kahn were hostesses for the December 27 event.

Friends of Deaconess wait on crowds at the Bazaar, held Friday, December 6 to raise money for the School of Nursing.

Mr. W. Clifford Fisher plays Santa Claus, distributing candy to employees. Recovery Room staff nurses, Miss Maria Duggan (left to right), Miss Sharon St. Ledger and Miss Carlene Leavitt step to the front.

Mr. Lloyd Bilton refills the punch bowl at the Hospital Christmas Party, held on December 20th in the Cafeteria. Department Heads served at the event.

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Voices mingle with strains of Sam Marotta's violin, Margie Hildebrand's flute and Marie Sullivan on the organ as Vernon Truell conducts the Christmas Chorale group. Credit for the successful caroling was due to superb cooperation of all departments and individuals involved.

Unit Dose Concept Studied For Expanded Use At Deaconess

Hospitals throughout the country are becoming increasingly interested in a relatively new system of drug distribution called the Unit Dose Concept. The system, which maintains the hospital pharmacist as the central controlling agent for all medication dispensations, is being eagerly incorporated for trial on limited scales in hospitals to "eliminate any possibility of error," and allow for easy dispensation of "one discrete dosage, ready to use," as prescribed by the patient's physician, according to Philip Pacella, Deaconess Hospital Assistant Chief Pharmacist.

Utilized on a limited basis in Respiration Therapy at the New England Deaconess Hospital, the Unit Dose Concept is now being studied to determine whether it should be further initiated into Hospital operations.

Nursing and Pharmacy at the Deaconess are collaborating on the planning stages of the Unit Dosage distribution system which is expected to raise the quality of drug therapy further, by improving the methods by which physicians' medication orders are carried through.

Once the system is installed, the pharmacy would receive a copy of the original physician's orders for medication. The pharmacist would interpret the order and prepare the medication, then have it sent to the nursing station for administration. With the prescription available at all times, cross checking would be a relatively simple procedure. The system would function as an effective safeguard against error and would result in the "best utilization of nursing-pharmacy time," according to Mr. Pacella.

At present, an Ad Hoc committee composed of Deaconess personnel is studying the possibilities of installing the Unit Dose Concept on a broader basis. The committee's findings and recommendations are anticipated for publication in the early spring.

Mrs. Hickson Retires

Camera catches Mrs. Ethel H. Hickson's expression as she discovers her gift from the Hospital is a much desired piece of luggage.

When Mrs. Ethel H. Hickson retired on January 6, Deaconess Hospital lost its hostess with the most years of service. Mr. Richard E. Lee, Director, in presenting her with the Hospital's gift, voiced regret at her leaving noting that, "We now face a new problem. For years we have asked Mrs. Hickson to help train all our new hostesses."

As a hostess for 20 years, Mrs. Hickson contributed to the development of hostess responsibilities in conjunction with initiating the unit coordinator system. Her floor was the first to have a unit coordinator and her assistance was of value in outlining the scope of the position.

For the past nine years Mrs. Hickson also has been the housemother at the graduate nurses residence at 229 Kent Street. Originally from Canada, Mrs. Hickson has two sons, two daughters and nine grandchildren.

A party was held in her honor on Monday, January 6 presenting her many friends throughout the Hospital with an opportunity to wish her well.

From the office of the Controller

TO ALL EMPLOYEES:

The Internal Revenue Service, in the interest of economy, is inaugurating a campaign this year to have all taxpayers, who are due refunds, file their income tax returns early and use the pre-addressed name label that comes with the return.

OBITUARIES

DOROTHY V. BLANCHARD

Miss Dorothy V. Blanchard, who recently retired from the Deaconess, died on Tuesday, December 10 in Bucksport, Maine.

Miss Blanchard, an employee here for 30 years, was graduated from the New England Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing. She started in the IV Therapy Department in the 1930's and was placed in charge when the Department was formalized in 1952. When the medical use of isotopes was just beginning she became an isotope nurse.

Services were held on Thursday, December 12 at the Mitchell Tweedie Funeral Home in Bucksport. Burial was at the Mt. Hope Cemetery, Bangor, Maine.

"Up On The Roof Top . . ."

In the cold, crisp winter daylight of December 3, a large and handsome 20 ft. Christmas tree, regally decked with lights, stood ready to be placed atop the completed steel structure above the New England Deaconess Hospital Central Building, Pilgrim Road. Christmas was about to be ushered in officially with the raising and the lighting of the tree.

The M. B. Foster Electrical Company furnished the multi-colored strings of lights for the Deaconess tree, while men from the Frank Briscoe Construction Company put together the platform upon which the tree was secured.

With spectators looking on and everything in the ready, a signal from one of the workmen brought the crane into operation over Pilgrim Road. The tree was raised to its position at the pinnacle of the steel construction within a few minutes.

Connected to an automatic timing device, the tree was a shining silhouette of colored lights starting at dusk each day and burning brightly until midnight. Towering over the Hospital complex through the shroud of nightfall, its lights remained visible to all in the surrounding area, serving as a radiating, warm and constant reminder of the spirit of Christmas.

One of several grateful letters — from a patient in a neighboring hospital — addressed to the Deaconess in reference to the tree seemed to sum it all up.

"I'm a patient . . . not particularly over-joyed at the thought of spending Christmas here. But I can't begin to tell you how happy I was when I looked out my window and saw the Christmas tree on your unfinished building. I especially love it at night when it's all lit up and appears to be suspended in air. I just wanted you to know that at least one person really appreciates what your hospital has done."

The tree's lights burned until January 6, and as is traditional for the celebration of Twelfth Night, its dismantling marked the end of Christmas '68.

ON ITS MERRY WAY—The 20 ft. Christmas tree floats up toward the top of the completed structural steelwork where it stood prominently spreading Christmas cheer.

CHRISTMAS SILHOUETTE—Crane lines pull taut as construction men secure plank platform of tree.

DOCTOR IN AFGHANISTAN

(*Continued from Page* 1)

Persian, spoken by the people. French and German are also widely spoken in Kabul.

Afghanistan, essentially a neutral nation, has the United States, Germany, France and the Soviet Union aiding in the country's development. Assistance is given in many ways, and the Care-Medico program is just one of the many. Of the program Dr. DeFriez said, "I found it to be very effective. It contributes a great deal. The staff of the hospital is extremely dedicated and highly motivated. It has been a most memorable experience."

Construction News

The second floor of the Palmer Building of the New England Deaconess Hospital is being renovated into an enlarged nursing unit. Completion of the facelifting project is anticipated by the end of January.

The opening of the 30-bed-unit will provide additional patient accommodations for the Hospital. The many improvements being introduced into the newly built patient area will be studied to ascertain their effects on patient and personnel comfort, ease and morale.

Carpeting in the corridors, solarium, nurses station and one patient room will be one of the innovations. A new lighting approach will be tested in one semi-private patient room, and rotary chart filing will be utilized in the nurses station. A modern intercom system will improve communications between patients and nursing. All bathrooms will be ceramic tiled.

Colorful decor is another consideration being incorporated into Palmer 2 for study. Findings from the "experiment" will help determine the decor of the new patient rooms under construction in the Central Building additions.

The New England Deaconess Hospital has received the permit for the construction of a tunnel under Brookline Avenue to the Shields Warren Laboratory and for running new steam and chilled water lines from NEDH to the Harvard Medical School Powerhouse. Construction is slated to begin within a month and it is suggested that driving be avoided on Brookline Avenue since traffic will be somewhat restricted until completion of the tunnel.

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

FICTION

The Photographer
Pierre Boulle. A frustrated news photographer contemplates participating in a Presidential assassination scheme.

Take A Pair of Private Eyes
J. T. McIntosh. Mystery.

Preserve and Protect
Allen Drury. Violence and political chaos follow the death of the President in a suspicious plane crash just after his party's renomination.

The Salzburg Connection
Helen MacInnes. A suspense novel set in the Austrian Alps.

NONFICTION

Our Own Worst Enemy
William J. Lederer. An examination of the failure of the United States in the war in Vietnam, which points out the way the American war effort is crippling itself.

New England Deaconess Hospital
185 Pilgrim Road
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

pulse

The New England Deaconess Hospital Complex, including the Medical Office Building at One Ten Francis Street, Lahey and Overholt Thoracic Clinics, the Joslin Diabetes Foundation, Inc., the Cancer Research Institute and the Shields Warren Radiation Laboratory, is internationally known for diagnosis, treatment and research in general medicine, brain and chest surgery, cancer and diabetes.

PULSE is published monthly by the Public Relations Department of the New England Deaconess Hospital.

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Christmas '68, the Season that was . . .
Story on Page 3

New England Deaconess Hospital Bowling League

DIVISION A

Team No.	Pinfall to date Incl. Handicap	Pts.
1—C. Schraub	19306	67
3—J. Barr	18142	64
4—D. Colleran	19486	58
2—J. Dillahunt	17807	53
5—M. Hennessey	19153	50

High Singles
D. Colleran 112
B. Nickerson 101

High Singles for Year
R. Ruth 143
B. Nickerson 121

High 3 Strings for Year
Ron Ruth 317
Bev Nickerson 304

High Average for Year
C. Schraub 96
B. Nickerson 89

DIVISION B

Team No.	Pinfall to date Incl. Handicap	Pts.
9—A. MacDonald	19437	66
6—B. Laffey	19195	50
8—M. Coburn	18941	44
7—G. Graham	19043	42

High Singles
B. Laffey 110
P. Dumont 104

High Singles for Year
R. Peterson 128
P. Dumont 104

High 3 Strings for Year
Ray Bentley 326
Pat Dumont 294

High Average for Year
Ray Bentley 100
P. Dumont 87

DIVISION C

Team No.	Pinfall to date Incl. Handicap	Pts.
14—B. Shapiro	19117	58
10—P. Gleason	19218	55
11—P. Hansen	17870	51
12—J. Mazza	19177	49
13—C. Pihl	12907	22

High Singles
M. Foley 95
B. Shapiro 104

High Singles for Year
Hugh Sycamore 117
Sheila Meek 122

High 3 Strings for Year
P. O'Connor 300
Sheila Meek 319

High Average for Year
Paul O'Connor 88
M. Foley 88
Sheila Meek 87